

**MINUTES  
PLAINVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – MUNICIPAL CENTER  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 6, 2019 – 7:00pm**

- I. PRESENTATIONS:**
- II. PUBLIC HEARING**
- 2019 Neighborhood Assistance Act
  - Board of Education Budget FY2020
- III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**  
April 8, 2019 Special Meeting
- IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS**
- V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**
1. Firefighter Appointment
  2. Appointments and Re-appointments to Boards and Commissions
- VI. BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Meetings Only)**
- VII. REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY**
- VIII. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER**
1. Land Donation – JNS Development
  2. Memorandum of Understanding – American Excavation & Septic
  3. Illicit Discharge & Stormwater Connection Ordinance
  4. Local Complete Count Committee – 2020 Census
  5. Valley Water Study Public Information Session – May 14, 2019
  6. GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award
  7. Wheeler School Project Update
  8. Happenings
- IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2019 Neighborhood Assistance Act Proposals
2. Consider Land Donation – JNS Development
3. Memorandum of Understanding – American Excavating & Septic
4. Resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing Application for Historic Preservation Grant”
5. Tax Refunds - Addendum
6. Recommendation for Board of Education Budget

**XII. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST**

**XIII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilwoman Pugliese called the meeting to order at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Center, One Central Square. Also present were Vice Chairwoman Tompkins, Council Members Wazorko, Morante, Gnazzo, Cox and Carrier, Town Manager Lee, Assistant to the Town Manager Colby, Town Attorney Mastrianni and Town Clerk Skultety.

Councilman Wazorko led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**\*\*Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to ratify the establishment of a public hearing for Monday May 6, 2019, at 7:00pm in the Municipal Center to hear public comment regarding the Town Council’s Fiscal Year 2020 Board of Education Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 7-0.**

**I. PRESENTATIONS**

**II. PUBLIC HEARING**

- 2019 Neighborhood Assistance Act

Town Clerk Skultety read the following legal notice:

**LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF PLAINVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING  
MAY 6, 2019**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Plainville Town Council will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday May 6, 2019 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Center, One Central Square in Plainville to hear public comments and consider proposals for the 2019 Neighborhood Assistance Act.

Dated at Plainville, Connecticut this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2019.

Town Manager Lee explained the Neighborhood Assistance Act tax credit program, is designed to provide funding for municipal and tax-exempt organizations by providing a corporate business tax credit for businesses who make cash donation to these entities. Applications must be approved in the Town in which services are provided. Five applications have been received.

Chairwoman Pugliese opened the hearing for comments.

No comments were made, and the public hearing was closed.

- \*\*Board of Education Budget FY2020

Town Clerk Skultety read the following legal notice:

**LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF PLAINVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING  
May 6, 2019**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Plainville Town Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Center, One Central Square for the purpose of hearing public comment on the Town Council's Fiscal Year 2020 Board of Education budget.

Dated at Plainville, Connecticut this 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019.

Town Manager Lee made the following comments:

“Last Tuesday, the voters rejected the Board of Education Budget with 372 yes votes and 384 no votes. 6.62% of the eligible taxpayers voted last week.

A total of 397 persons responded to the “Advisory Question” with 381 saying the budget was “too high” and 16 saying the budget was “too low”. 96% of those who answered the advisory question indicated that the Education Budget was “too high”.

**Charter Requirements - Revision November 6, 2012.**

**The Town budget and the Board of Education budget shall be adopted separately by a majority vote of those attending and entitled to vote.**

**Should the Town Meeting fail to adopt a budget at the first meeting called on the last Tuesday in April, the Town Council in conjunction with the Manager shall revise the rejected budgets in accordance with the majority results from the advisory question. A second Town Meeting to adopt the revised budgets shall be called on the second Tuesday in May for final approval.**

**The Council may conduct such public hearings and/or informational meetings, as it may deem necessary.**

This is the first time that either the Town or Education budgets have been defeated since the Town Charter was amended in 2012. Under the Town Charter, the Town Council is required to lower the Education budget from the one that was voted on last week.

After the Budget vote, the Town Council decided to hold a public hearing before making any decisions on how much to reduce the Education Budget. That is the purpose of this portion of tonight's meeting. After the Public Hearing is concluded, the Town Council will continue with their Agenda. The Town Council has scheduled action on the proposed Education Budget under New Business later in the meeting.

A second vote will then be held a week from tomorrow on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 6:00 am to 8:00 pm. Voting will occur at the Firehouse on West Main Street.

**Town Charter requirements regarding the second vote:**

**Should the Town Meeting fail to adopt one or both budgets after the second meeting, the Town Council in conjunction with the Manager shall revise the rejected budget in accordance with the majority results from the advisory question, which shall be deemed finally adopted by the Town Meeting and expenditures shall be made in accordance therewith.**

Please note that the Town Council can only reduce the bottom line amount of the Education Budget. The Board of Education has full control over how that bottom line amount will be spent.

Please note that the Education Budget that did not pass last week totaled \$38,329,105. This was \$1,006,193 higher than the current year's budget."

Superintendent Brummett then offered the following comments:

"Good Evening Town Manager Lee and Members of the Town Council,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak about the Board of Education's budget in light of the recent referendum vote in which it was defeated by 12 votes.

Being aware of the Town Charter's requirement that the Council must reduce the budget under these circumstances, I approached Mr. Lee on Wednesday about what the reduction might be. He indicated somewhere between \$100,000-\$200,000. I expressed my dismay about the significance of the cut and that it would most certainly mean reductions to programs and staff. We spoke about the fact that the Board cut close to \$200,000 from the budget (bringing it from a 3.4% increase to a 3% increase) before it was considered by the Town Council on March 21. On that date the budget was reduced by another \$113,000, bringing it to a 2.7% increase. The entirety of the

budget is driven by contractual increases and benefits with a slight increase in utilities. The rest of the budget including professional services, repairs, transportation, equipment, and dues and fees have all been reduced from last year's funding levels.

On Wednesday May 1 (the day after the all-day vote), I convened an emergency meeting of my administrative team. After meeting for several hours, it was agreed that while we don't want to cut anything due to the impact, the following are likely cuts to the Board's budget if a reduction in the amount of \$200,000 is made. It is important to note that neither my administrative team, nor the Board (who met on May 2, 2019 to discuss the cuts) wanted to prioritize these cuts at this time. These reductions are not in order of importance, they are all very important:

**New Special Education Teacher for students with Autism at PHS** (offset by the reduction of two tutors that are no longer in the budget). This position was to support current 8th graders who are coming to PHS next year.

**Reduction of the Teacher of the Hearing Impaired to part time** ( we will need to reallocate some of her services to other professionals such as speech pathologists and some sign language classes will be eliminated)

**New Social Studies Teacher at PHS** (offset by the reduction of a retiring Art Teacher who is no longer in the budget). This position was recommended by NEASC given our large Social Studies class sizes at PHS. This reduction will create class sizes in social studies that may exceed contractual limits and will reduce elective offerings.

**Wheeler Literacy Tutor:** this offset by a retiring tutor position at Linden that was to be reassigned to Wheeler due to large class sizes in grade 5, struggling readers in grades K-2 and a high percentage of English Language Learners at Wheeler

**Partial Reduction of some Middle School Sports:** At this time, we are unable to determine how we would reduce sports, but have provided the Town Council and the public with the proposed budget for Middle School sports with a reduction of \$40,000.

The remaining cuts include Advanced Placement textbooks and elementary supplies that are already lean due to several years of budget freezes.

I want to sincerely thank the Town Council tonight as I have enjoyed our three years of a collaborative relationship. We have weathered numerous bad budget years that included substantial cuts to the Education Cost Sharing grant (ECS) and catastrophic insurance increases last year. In spite of that we have together striven to ensure that our Town and Education services have been maintained and, in some instances, slightly enhanced.

We know things are uncertain at the state for a variety of reasons. However, we do know that the ECS grant is going up substantially next year by more than \$260,000. Additionally, in a recent conversation with Rep. Matt Ritter, he indicated state revenues are looking better for next year as well.

Once again, I thank you wholeheartedly for the opportunity to speak this evening and hope that you carefully consider the comments from the residents of Plainville this evening.”

Chairwoman Pugliese opened the meeting for comments in front of a capacity filled Council Chambers audience.

She began by stating the Town Council has received 25 emails from concerned residents all were asking the Town Council to reconsider a proposed \$200,000 reduction to the Board of Education's budget which is too much.

Emails received were from: Susan Powers, 4 Great Plain Dr.; Candace Kochosky, 90 Northwest Dr 41E; Stacey Krzykowski; James Cyr, Jr, 37 Woodland St.; Nicole and Tom DiCarlo, 44 Sandstone Rd.; Christine Pringle, 7 Dominic's Ct.; Sarah Ellis; Rebecca Cooke; Terren Emery; Marie Clark, 5 Great Plain Dr.; Carissa Billings, 369 Woodford Ave Apt 18; Crystal Cyr, 37 Woodland St.; Lindsay Burt; Kristin Campbell, 5 Overlook Dr.; Kristin Boyles; Lucille Beattie, 190 Tomlinson Ave U 13A; Michelle Rogan; Danielle Schnauffer; Jeffrey Blanchette, 309 East U8; John & Lisa Aligata; Erika Graff; Alexis Graff; Val & Susan Dumais, 15 West Pine Way U26; Chris Clark, 5 Great Plain Dr; Abigail Egan, 7 Cree Circle

Following her comments, 33 concerned residents, parents, teachers, coaches, commission members and BOE members addressed the Town Council compassionately with their personal concerns about the impact a reduction of that amount would have. The vast majority asked the Town Council to approve minimum or no reductions while others suggested ways the BOE could streamline their costs or approved the proposed amount. In summary:

Rachel Posner, 14 Bruce Ave. spoke to the impact reductions would have

Karen Maciorowski, 2 Sunrise Terr spoke in favor of the budget as presented without cuts

Benjamin Gediman, 5 Dickman Rd stated proposed cuts are unacceptable

Laurel Schwartz, 2 Seneca Rd does not want to see any budget cuts

Lori Peterson, 10 Stremlau Ave, encouraged residents to vote on Tuesday

Lori Consalvo, 5 Hoerle Ct, stated there was not more room to cut

Deb Hardy, 17 Maria Rd, strongly encouraged greater voter turnout

Jaquelyn Bartomioli, 5 Farmhill Dr suggested the same budget as last time

Kathryn LaBella, 50 Pierce St suggested ways to streamline administrative costs

Sherry Labowski, 57 Birch Tree Rd asked for the lowest reduction possible

Todd Cello, 12 Usher Ave Spoke in opposition to reductions

Mike Giuliano, 26 Norton Pl stated the proposed cut would be devastating

Kelly Neyra, 92 Rockwell Ave suggested the same budget

Kari McCaw, 30 Diamond Ave #13, requested a lower reduction

Anke Cooke, 55 Red Stone Hill asked to reconsider cuts

Bethel Hairston, 4 Maxine Rd, asked to reconsider cuts

Eric Gridley, 92 Carol Dr stated the cuts would be devastating

John Aligata, 3 Test Dr spoke to the impact reductions would have

Jeff Kochisky, 69 Northwest Dr U41E spoke against the proposed reduction

Stephanie Andros, 12 Ben Ct hopes for less budget cuts

Nicole Palmieri, 20 Julie Rd spoke against massive cuts

Mark Chase, 48 Metacomet Rd asked to reconsider cuts

Crystal St. Lawrence, 76 Higgins Ave asked for minimal reductions

Becky Tyrrell, 174 West Main St asked for minimal reductions

Katherine Curtis, 15 Maiden Ln spoke in favor of the same budget amount

Kathleen Wells, 19 East Broad St would not support significant cuts

Will Smith, 140 Tomlinson Ave spoke about the impact reductions would have

John Kisluk, 65 Forestville Ave spoke in favor of the proposed reductions

Shaun Simoneau, 138 White Oak Ave spoke in favor of the same proposed budget

Rachael Merritt, 54 Burnham St was out of town for the vote and asked for another way to vote

Tayton Musshorn, 55 Locust St was away but would have voted yes

Paula Saunders, 155 Stillwell Ave spoke to the impact the reductions would have

Rebecca Martinez, 4 Irving St asked for minimal reductions

All were encouraged to vote on Tuesday, May 14 at the Fire House.

The public hearing was closed at 8:30pm followed by a 20-minute recess.

The meeting resumed at 8:50pm.

### **III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the minutes of April 8, 2019 Special Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 7-0.**

**IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS – REPORTS**

No announcements were made.

**V. APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATION**

**1. Fire Department**

**Councilman Cox motioned to appoint Chris Centurelli, 222 West Main Street, as a Regular Fighter to the Plainville Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins and passed 7-0.**

**VI. BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Meetings Only)**

**VII. REPORT OF TOWN ATTORNEY**

No report

**VIII. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER**

Town Manager Lee presented and discussed the following topics:

- **Land Donation – JNS Development**

JNS Development recently received approval from the Planning & Zoning Commission for a 55 lot sub-division located on Bradley Street near the intersection of Camp Street. As part of the approval, the Planning & Zoning Commission is recommending the acceptance of 19.55 acres of land for open space purposes.

This parcel shares a boundary with the Middle School property. Additionally, the parcel will lend itself for passive recreation as well as a potential for active recreation if the need arises. There is also a potential for additional open space to be created when the Tyler Farms property on Unionville Avenue is developed as well.

- **Memorandum of Understanding - American Excavating & Septic**

The Economic Development Agency recently voted to recommend a three-year tax abatement of 30% a year for the construction of an industrial building located on Lewis Street. American Excavating & Septic is proposing to construct a 7,500 square foot facility. The estimated cost to construct the building is \$700K.

- **Illicit Discharge & Stormwater Connection Ordinance**



John Bossi, Technical Services Director was in attendance to discuss the requirements concerning a proposed ***Illicit Discharge and Stormwater Connection Ordinance***. The United States Environment Protection Agency and Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and subsequent amendments regulate and mandate stormwater in urbanized areas such as Plainville. These agencies have established a permit system and stormwater management program intended to improve the Nation's waterways by reducing the quality of pollutants that come in contact with stormwater. This ordinance provides the legal authority to implement the stormwater management program.

The proposed Ordinance has been reviewed by the Town Attorney. No action on the proposed Ordinance is being requested as part of this evening's meeting.

- **Local Complete Count Committee – 2020 Census**

The 2020 Census will begin in the next several months. The Census Bureau is recommending that municipalities form "***Complete Count Committees***" to ensure that everyone is counted as part of the census.

Each town is divided into census tracts. Plainville has four census tracts. The Census Bureau has identified one of these census tracts with what is known as a "low response score greater than 20%". The Census Bureau believes that there is a need in Plainville and that this particular census tract would benefit from a coordinated effort to raise awareness. Additional information regarding the 2020 Census was included in the package for this evening's meeting. A representative from the Census Bureau will attend a future Town Council meeting to discuss the need to consider forming a "***Complete Census Committee***".

- **Valley Water Study Public Information Session – May 14, 2019**

A Public Information Session to discuss the Valley Water Hardness Study will be held next Tuesday evening, May 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 pm in the Middle School Auditorium. The study was conducted to determine what could be done on a system-wide basis to soften the water delivered by Valley Water. Residents will have the opportunity to ask questions and make comments regarding the water quality as well.

Representatives from the State Department of Health, the Public Utilities Regulatory Agency and the Plainville Southington Health District will be in attendance to respond to comments and questions as well. Residents are encouraged to attend this Public Information Session.

A complete copy of the Water Hardness Study can be found on the Valley water web-page at [www.valleywatersystems.com](http://www.valleywatersystems.com) and there is also a link from the Town of Plainville web-page.

- **GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) is a major professional organization servicing the needs of more than 19,000 appointed and elected local, state, and provincial-level government officials and other financial practitioners. GFOA provides quality publications, training programs, services, and products designed to enhance the skills and performances of those responsible for government finance and management.

Each year, GFOA presents a ***Distinguished Budget Presentation Award*** to those communities that meet the highest principles of government budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation.

Those guidelines are designed to assess how well the Town's budget served as: a policy document; a financial plan; an operations guide; and a communications device.

Town Manager Lee was very pleased to announce that Scott Colby, Assistant to the Town Manager has been recently recognized for the primary person responsible for having the Town of Plainville receiving the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. Scott Colby has spent considerable time in making sure that Plainville's budget document meets the highest standards. His efforts assured that our community met the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and represents a significant achievement for Plainville and its citizens.

- **Wheeler School Project Update**

Scott Colby has served as the staff person for the Capital Projects Building Committee. He attends all of their meetings and attends the contractor meetings as well. He coordinates efforts between the Building Committee, Architects, the Construction Manager and the Town Manager's Office to help keep the project moving forward.

Mr. Colby then gave update on the Wheeler School Project. In summary the Referendum was held on June 6, 2017 approving the Wheeler Renovation Project for \$23,515,000. The project is on schedule to complete Phase 2, 2A, 2B this August in time for the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year.

The project is on schedule for completion in March of 2020.

- **Happenings**

Assistant to the Town Manager Colby's report included events and activities within the Senior Center, Historic Center, Youth Services and the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. For more information visit the Town Website at [www.plainvillect.com](http://www.plainvillect.com)

## **IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

John Kisluk, 65 Forestville Ave comments included the signage for the budget vote, use of Unassigned Fund Balance and that he may be contacted if anyone is interested in obtaining a 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin.

Joel Edman, 63 Hollyberry Ln. comments included his opposition to the trail.

Tom Fote, 15 Bradley St appreciated the residents that spoke during the public hearing.

Joanne Edman, 166 West Main St commented on the turnout for the public hearing and in opposition to the trail.

Nicole Palmieri, 20 Julie Rd commented on the low resident interest at BOE meetings.

Dave Albert, 56 Hollyberry Ln voiced concerns with the BOE budgets that continue to rise.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. 2019 Neighborhood Assistance Act Proposals**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned approve the following proposals for the 2019 Neighborhood Assistance Act:

- a. The Congregational Church of Plainville, United Church of Christ Energy Efficiency Initiative; \$150,000
- b. PARC, Inc, Camp Trumbull; \$3,000
- c. Plainville Early Learning Center, Inc., Air Conditioning for Toddler & Preschool Classrooms; \$11,091
- d. Prudence Crandall Center, Inc., Energy Efficiency; \$29,253
- e. Prudence Crandall Center, Inc., Annual Appeal; \$150,000

The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 7-0.

**2. Consider Land Donation-JNS Development**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to accept the donation of a 19.55-acre parcel adjacent to the Middle School of Plainville as open space from JNS Development, LLC. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 6-0 with Councilman Carrier abstaining due to his relationship with the developers.

**3. Memorandum of Understanding – American Excavating & Septic**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve and authorize Town Manager Lee to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with American Excavating & Septic, as recommended by the Economic Development Agency. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 7-0.

**4. Resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing Application for Historic Preservation Grant” - See Addendum**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to adopt a resolution entitled “Resolution Authorizing Application for Historic Preservation Grant”. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 7-0.

**5. Tax Refunds – See Addendum**

Vice Chairwoman Tompkins motioned to approve the tax refunds as listed on the Addendum. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cox and passed 7-0.

Discussion ensued among the Council members.

**At 10:05pm Councilman Carrier motioned for a 10 min recess. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairwoman Tompkins and unanimously passed.**

The meeting reconvened at 10:15pm.

**6. Recommendation for Board of Education Budget**

**Councilman Cox motioned to approve and recommend the Board of Education Fiscal Year 2020 budget for \$38,229,105 reflecting a \$100,000 reduction. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gnazzo. Discussion continued. The motion passed 7-0.**

**XI. OTHER DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST**

**XII. MATTER APPROPRIATE FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**At 10:25pm, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Cox, seconded by Councilman Carrier and unanimously passed.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Carol A. Skultety, Town Clerk  
& Clerk of the Town Council

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**5-2019**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT**

**RESOLVED**, that Robert E. Lee, Town Manager, or the Town Clerk as his designee, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of the Town of Plainville, a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Refunds**

**5/6/2019**

	<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1	ACAR Leasing LTD, Arlington, TX	\$376.13
2	ACAR Leasing LTD, Arlington, TX	\$407.19
3	Dagata, Jeff or Jane, 7 East Fourth St	\$101.52
4	Szuszakiewicz, Jacek or Elizbieta, 7 D'Amico Dr	\$41.62
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$926.46</b>

	<b>Prior Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1	Dagata, Jeff or Jane, 7 East Fourth St	\$98.04
2	Dagata, Jeff or Jane, 7 East Fourth St	\$95.96
3	Dagata, Jeff or Jane, 7 East Fourth St	\$95.48
4	Dagata, Jeff or Jane, 7 East Fourth St	\$94.14
5	Dagata, Jeff or Jane, 7 East Fourth St	\$94.14
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$477.76</b>